



Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Accelerating the USFWS Habitat Conservation Easement Program - Phase II
Laws of Minnesota 2020 Accomplishment Plan

General Information

Date: 10/31/2022

Project Title: Accelerating the USFWS Habitat Conservation Easement Program - Phase II

Funds Recommended: \$3,187,000

Legislative Citation: ML 2020, Ch. 104, Art. 1, Sec. 2, subd 2(k)

Appropriation Language: \$3,187,000 the second year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Ducks Unlimited, in cooperation with Pheasants Forever and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, to acquire permanent conservation working lands easements and to restore wetlands and prairie grasslands. Of this amount, \$2,248,000 is to Ducks Unlimited and \$939,000 is to Pheasants Forever. A list of proposed acquisitions and restorations must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

Manager Information

Manager's Name: Doug McClain

Title: Regional Biologist

Organization: Ducks Unlimited

Address: Ducks Unlimited, Inc., c/o USFWS 18965 County Highway 82

City: Fergus Falls, MN 56537

Email: dmccclain@ducks.org

Office Number: 2187360612

Mobile Number: 2186713565

Fax Number:

Website: www.ducks.org/minnesota

Location Information

County Location(s): Big Stone, Lac qui Parle, Douglas, Grant, Otter Tail, Kandiyohi, Meeker, Swift, Pope and Stearns.

Eco regions in which work will take place:

- Forest / Prairie Transition
- Prairie

Activity types:

- Protect in Easement
- Restore

Priority resources addressed by activity:

- Wetlands
- Prairie

Narrative

Abstract

This Phase 2 partnership will accelerate USFWS wildlife habitat easements to restore and protect 775 acres of private grasslands and pothole wetlands in west-central Minnesota, and restore 50 additional prairie-wetland acres too. These "working land" conservation easements allow delayed haying and grazing while protecting restored wetlands and prairie grasslands for nesting ducks, pheasants, and other wildlife. By restoring and protecting grassland and wetland habitat while allowing for continued landowner use of these working private lands, USFWS habitat easements fill an important prairie landscape conservation niche that complements other more restrictive easements and fee-title public lands, and buffers existing habitats.

Design and Scope of Work

Ducks Unlimited (DU) and Pheasants Forever (PF) will purchase wildlife habitat conservation easements on private land in west-central Minnesota using federally-approved conservation easement language and federal payment rates, restore drained wetlands and cropland back to prairie grassland, and transfer the easements to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) for long-term perpetual monitoring and enforcement. DU will purchase and hold easements through it's Wetlands America Trust (WAT), DU's supporting land-holding fiduciary organization, of which DU is the sole corporate member. By purchasing easements and restoring grasslands and wetlands for USFWS with OHF support, DU and PF will effectively accelerate the rate at which USFWS can protect grassland and wetlands in key focus landscapes in which there are also many state and federal wildlife lands owned and managed in fee-title, and other lands protected by more restrictive conservation easements too. These are some of the most productive landscapes in the state for breeding waterfowl and other prairie wildlife including pheasants, and these private working land conservation easements complement other federal, state, and private conservation easement options available to landowners.

USFWS habitat conservation easements not only include protection measures that prevent wetland/prairie conversion and land development/subdivision, but importantly, they also secure rights to restore wetlands and prairie grassland where feasible too - which is the primary purpose of this OHF easement program. DU/PF will help USFWS conduct landowner outreach, prioritize offers of federally-approved easement payments, and conduct landowner negotiations, boundary survey, environmental review, title review, and other legal tasks, and purchase the easement for USFWS. DU/PF will protect via easement (and restore where needed) 775 acres of prairie and wetlands for USFWS. DU/PF will also use OHF grant funds to restore 50 additional prairie and wetland acres on land eased directly by USFWS as leverage too. DU/PF will restore eased lands in partnership with the USFWS with technical guidance from their private lands biologists. DU engineers will survey/design larger complex wetland restorations, and manage restoration contracts to private construction firms.

USFWS "Habitat Easements" have been used here for over two decades, and are designed to provide a habitat protection conservation tool to complement public lands habitat complexes such as federal Waterfowl Production Areas and state Wildlife Management Areas, by keeping privately owned restored grassland and wetland habitat intact and on county tax rolls while allowing for working use of the land. These easements provide landowners with the option of either delayed haying (after July 15) or both grazing and delayed haying, which results in adequate habitat for wetland and upland nesting birds and a working land use option that appeals to some private landowners. Importantly, these working land easements also help manage plant succession on their land, which is critical to preventing the encroachment of volunteer trees and invasive plant species. Well-managed grazing, delayed haying, and USFWS prescribed fire also benefits those grassland bird species that prefer more open prairie habitats, such as pintail ducks, marbled godwits, snipe, and many other prairie species.

How does the plan address habitats that have significant value for wildlife species of greatest conservation need, and/or threatened or endangered species, and list targeted species?

This proposal will purchase habitat easements to restore to prairie grasslands and wetland complexes. USFWS easements can be grazed and delay hayed, land uses which are compatible with grassland nesting birds as per scientific research. Prairies and emergent marshes are identified as critical habitats for many "Species of Greatest Conservation Need" listed in Minnesota's "Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild & Rare: An Action Plan for Minnesota Wildlife". Grassland nesting birds have shown the largest population decline of any of the bird species. Specific species listed in the Action Plan as requiring prairie (page 255) include seven species of butterflies and three bird species that are native prairie specialists: chestnut-collared longspur, Sprague's pipit, and Baird's sparrow. Specific species listed in the Action Plan as requiring emergent marshes (page 267) include least bittern, American bittern, marsh wren, and Virginia rail. The Prairie Parkland has 139 species listed on the SGCN with 13 of these species being unique to the section. Grasslands are also critical to a diverse suite of declining pollinator species.

In addition to these specific wildlife species listed as SGCN in the Action Plan, restored prairie and wetlands in the Prairie Parkland will provide habitat of significant value for other species listed in Appendix B of the Action Plan too. Restored and protected prairie will provide habitat of significant value for other SGCN including bird species: upland sandpiper, bobolink, burrowing owl, Le Conte's sparrow, grasshopper sparrow, eastern meadowlark, swamp sparrow, sharp-tailed grouse, short-eared owl, northern harrier, dickcissel, Henslow's sparrow, and Nelson's sharp-tailed sparrow. Upland nesting waterfowl will also benefit including waterfowl listed as SGCN; northern pintail and lesser scaup, which have both seen declines in continental populations. Wetland associated birds such as trumpeter swan, black tern, American bittern, Wilson's phalarope, and marbled godwit will benefit from wetlands restored and buffered in the prairie landscape through the habitat easements. Mammals including northern grasshopper mouse and Richardson's ground squirrels, reptiles such as lined snake and Blanding's turtle, and amphibians such as northern cricket frog and common mudpuppy are SGCN in the Prairie Parkland.

Describe how the plan uses science-based targeting that leverages or expands corridors and complexes, reduces fragmentation or protects areas identified in the MN County Biological Survey:

USFWS biologists score and rank each grassland habitat easement proposal based on ecological site attributes and landscape juxtaposition. This ranking process was designed to be relatively simple and evaluate the capability of the proposed easement to provide biological benefits for wetland and grassland dependent wildlife species by considering the habitat on the easement tract as well as its contribution and benefits to other protected lands in the surrounding area. Periodically, the USFWS Minnesota Wetland Acquisition Office in Fergus Falls uses these rankings to re-prioritize the proposals to assure that the USFWS is working on and purchasing the highest ranking

proposals throughout the year. DU and PF will rely on the high level of science-based expertise of the USFWS to ensure that easement opportunities are prioritized, and will work closely as a partnership to share the workload and accelerate the easement program in west-central Minnesota. Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, and USFWS will work together to use science-based targeting to focus promotion of this accelerated habitat conservation easement program, with focus on tracts near existing federal WPAs, state WMAs, and other permanent private land easements. High priority tracts will be those with restorable drained wetlands and converted prairie or expiring CRP that, once fully restored, will build and expand prairie-wetland complexes for ducks, pheasants, and migratory birds in landscapes with a high density of other protected habitats. Science-based models such as the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) "Thunderstorm Maps" and "Restorable Wetlands Inventory" will help us determine landscape importance to breeding waterfowl, as will the state Pheasant Plan and Minnesota's Prairie Conservation Plan that helps guide prairie conservation efforts within Complexes, Core, and Corridor areas of western Minnesota. Finally, parcels near sites with relatively high biological diversity and significance based on the Minnesota DNR County Biological Survey (MCBS) will be a priority too, and parcels with unique ecological values will be shared with other conservation easement program partners to ensure collaboration, avoid duplication of effort, and that the best conservation easement program option is offered to private landowners.

Which two sections of the Minnesota Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan are most applicable to this project?

- H5 Restore land, wetlands and wetland-associated watersheds

Which two other plans are addressed in this program?

- Long Range Duck Recovery Plan
- Long Range Plan for the Ring-Necked Pheasant in MN

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this program?

Forest / Prairie Transition

- Protect, enhance, and restore wild rice wetlands, shallow lakes, wetland/grassland complexes, aspen parklands, and shoreland that provide critical habitat for game and nongame wildlife

Prairie

- Protect, enhance, or restore existing wetland/upland complexes, or convert agricultural lands to new wetland/upland habitat complexes

Does this program include leveraged funding?

Yes

Explain the leverage:

To help leverage this state request, the USFWS pledges to spend at least \$280,000 in federal Migratory Bird Management Funds (federal "duck stamp") to directly purchase additional easements, and \$28,000 in federal staff time assist DU and PF in the purchase, restoration, and transfer of easements to USFWS. DU and PF strive to use our non-federal private and state OHF grant expense as often as possible as match to leverage federal NAWCA grant funds to further our conservation missions. NAWCA is highly competitive and complex, and proposal success is uncertain. Therefore, DU and PF will work closely with Minnesota DNR, USFWS, and other NGO partners such as TNC to use state OHF grant expense as non-federal match to leverage federal NAWCA funds to help fund similar land restoration and protection work in the same landscapes where USFWS habitat conservation easements are

being purchased and restored. This approach may include using OHF grant expense to leverage NAWCA funds to pay for more habitat easements, or to purchase lands in fee-title for DNR or FWS, or for restoration costs of lands purchased or protected by easements.

Per MS 97A.056, Subd. 24, Please explain whether the request is supplanting or is a substitution for any previous funding that was not from a legacy fund and was used for the same purpose.

This OHF funding request does not supplant or substitute for any previous funding. This new OHF funding will be used for new conservation work to accelerate USFWS conservation easement delivery in Minnesota to accelerate protection and restoration of wetlands and prairie, and provide "working land" conservation easements options for landowners.

Non-OHF Appropriations

Year	Source	Amount
2010-2018	U.S. Migratory Bird Conservation Fund (federal Duck Stamp)	-

How will you sustain and/or maintain this work after the Outdoor Heritage Funds are expended?

Easements secured will be transferred to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service for long-term annual monitoring and enforcement. The terms of the easement allow limited delayed haying after July 15 or delayed haying and grazing, but require wetlands and grasslands to be maintained by the private landowner. The easements also allow DU and PF, and subsequently the the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service after transfer, to restore and help enhance wetland restorations or improve grasslands in the future when determined by the Service to be necessary for wildlife habitat management purposes.

Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
2020	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	Annually Monitor Easements	Identify Problems, if any	Work with Private Landowners to Resolve

Activity Details

Requirements

If funded, this program will meet all applicable criteria set forth in MS 97A.056?

Yes

Is the land you plan to acquire (easement) free of any other permanent protection?

No

Describe the expected public use:

Some tracts to be eased may already have USFWS wetland easements on them that protect intact and restored wetlands. The federal payment for these new habitat easements will take into account the value of the land with those wetlands permanently protected. These new USFWS Habitat easements will overlay, and protect and restore uplands in addition to previously protected wetlands.

Who will manage the easement?

DU and PF will be responsible for monitoring and enforcement of easement terms during our brief hold times (estimated 1 year or less) prior to transfer of easements to the USFWS, after which time the USFWS and federal government will monitor and enforce the terms of the easements. All land management will be the responsibility

of the private landowner, but the easements require the wetlands and prairie grassland uplands to be maintained and include the right of restoration.

Who will be the easement holder?

DU and PF will record and briefly hold the easements for approximately one year, after which the USFWS will hold and enforce the easements in perpetuity.

What is the anticipated number of easements (range is fine) you plan to accomplish with this appropriation?

We anticipate purchasing between 5-15 easements in total, depending on the size of land tracts to be protected.

Will restoration and enhancement work follow best management practices including MS 84.973 Pollinator Habitat Program?

Yes

Is the restoration and enhancement activity on permanently protected land per 97A.056, Subd 13(f), tribal lands, and/or public waters per MS 103G.005, Subd. 15 or on lands to be acquired in this program?

Yes

Where does the activity take place?

- Permanently Protected Conservation Easements

Land Use

Will there be planting of any crop on OHF land purchased or restored in this program?

Yes

Explain what will be planted:

Some very limited duration crop planting may be required as site preparation for prairie restoration on parcels where herbicides with long (18+ month) residual carryover have been used, where conversion of old fields infested with invasive plants such as smooth brome and reed canary grass may require a year of cropping with herbicides for restoration purposes. No food plots are planned through this program.

Are any of the crop types planted GMO treated?

True

Will the eased land be open for public use?

No

Are there currently trails or roads on any of the proposed acquisitions?

No

Will new trails or roads be developed or improved as a result of the OHF acquisition?

No

Will the acquired parcels be restored or enhanced within this appropriation?

Yes

Yes, all lands eased that are in need of restoration (e.g., cropland and drained wetlands) will be restored through this appropriation. In addition, DU and PF will use this appropriation to also restore 60 acres or more of land protected by USFWS easements purchased directly by the USFWS.

Timeline

Activity Name	Estimated Completion Date
Easement offers made to private landowners for parcels prioritized by USFWS and using payments calculated by USFWS	December 2021
Easement boundary surveys, consulted phase 1 environmental reviews, and legal title clearance completed by DU and PF	June 2022
Easements purchased and recorded by DU and PF	December 2022
Easements transferred from DU and PF to USFWS	December 2023
Easement wetlands and prairie grasslands restored by DU and PF	December 2028

Date of Final Report Submission: 10/31/2028

Availability of Appropriation: Subd. 7. Availability of Appropriation

Money appropriated in this section may not be spent on activities unless they are directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation and are specified in the accomplishment plan approved by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. Money appropriated in this section must not be spent on indirect costs or other institutional overhead charges that are not directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation. Unless otherwise provided, the amounts in this section are available until June 30, 2023. For acquisition of real property, the amounts in this section are available until June 30, 2024, if a binding agreement with a landowner or purchase agreement is entered into by June 30, 2023, and closed no later than June 30, 2024. Funds for restoration or enhancement are available until June 30, 2025, or five years after acquisition, whichever is later, in order to complete initial restoration or enhancement work. If a project receives at least 15 percent of its funding from federal funds, the time of the appropriation may be extended to equal the availability of federal funding to a maximum of six years if the federal funding was confirmed and included in the original approved draft accomplishment plan. Funds appropriated for fee title acquisition of land may be used to restore, enhance, and provide for public use of the land acquired with the appropriation. Public-use facilities must have a minimal impact on habitat in acquired lands.

Budget

Budget reallocations up to 10% do not require an amendment to the Accomplishment Plan.

Grand Totals Across All Partnerships

Item	Funding Request	Antic. Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$177,000	\$24,000	DU Private & Federal USFWS	\$201,000
Contracts	\$814,000	-	-	\$814,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	\$2,015,000	\$240,000	Federal USFWS	\$2,255,000
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	\$26,000	-	-	\$26,000
Professional Services	\$91,000	-	-	\$91,000
Direct Support Services	\$17,000	-	-	\$17,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$5,000	-	-	\$5,000
Supplies/Materials	\$42,000	-	-	\$42,000
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	\$3,187,000	\$264,000	-	\$3,451,000

Partner: Pheasants Forever**Totals**

Item	Funding Request	Antic. Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$27,000	-	-	\$27,000
Contracts	\$246,000	-	-	\$246,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	\$615,000	-	-	\$615,000
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	\$3,000	-	-	\$3,000
Professional Services	\$21,000	-	-	\$21,000
Direct Support Services	\$5,000	-	-	\$5,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	-	-	-	-
Supplies/Materials	\$22,000	-	-	\$22,000
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	\$939,000	-	-	\$939,000

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Antic. Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
PF Biologist, Land, and Legal Staff to purchase and restore easements, and transfer them to the USFWS.	0.07	4.0	\$27,000	-	-	\$27,000

Partner: Ducks Unlimited**Totals**

Item	Funding Request	Antic. Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$150,000	\$24,000	DU Private & Federal USFWS	\$174,000
Contracts	\$568,000	-	-	\$568,000
Fee Acquisition w/ PILT	-	-	-	-
Fee Acquisition w/o PILT	-	-	-	-
Easement Acquisition	\$1,400,000	\$240,000	Federal USFWS	\$1,640,000
Easement Stewardship	-	-	-	-
Travel	\$23,000	-	-	\$23,000
Professional Services	\$70,000	-	-	\$70,000
Direct Support Services	\$12,000	-	-	\$12,000
DNR Land Acquisition Costs	-	-	-	-
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other Equipment/Tools	\$5,000	-	-	\$5,000
Supplies/Materials	\$20,000	-	-	\$20,000
DNR IDP	-	-	-	-
Grand Total	\$2,248,000	\$264,000	-	\$2,512,000

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years Working	Funding Request	Antic. Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
DU realty specialist, biologists, and engineers to help close easements and restore wetlands and grasslands on protected land tracts.	0.3	4.0	\$120,000	\$24,000	DU Private & Federal USFWS	\$144,000
DU Conservation Program Manager who will coordinate the purchase of easements, manage the partnership, and administer the grant.	0.08	4.0	\$30,000	-	-	\$30,000

Amount of Request: \$3,187,000**Amount of Leverage:** \$264,000**Leverage as a percent of the Request:** 8.28%

DSS + Personnel: \$194,000

As a % of the total request: 6.09%

Easement Stewardship: -

As a % of the Easement Acquisition: -

How will this program accommodate the reduced appropriation recommendation from the original proposed requested amount?

The budget will be reduced to approximately 28% of the request in each budget line item category, with some rounding and minor adjustments.

Describe and explain leverage source and confirmation of funds:

The USFWS will purchase some other easements directly using federal Migratory Bird Conservation (federal duck stamp) funds through federal USFWS staff personnel. PF and DU hope to also leverage additional federal NAWCA grant funds to help pay for restoration costs in the future too, but those proposals are pending.

Contracts

What is included in the contracts line?

DU and PF Contracts include costs paid to competitively-selected private earth-moving contractors to restore drained wetlands by plugging or filling ditches and removing sediment and trees, installing water level control structures, and seeding cropland back to native prairie grasslands.

Travel

Does the amount in the travel line include equipment/vehicle rental?

No

Explain the amount in the travel line outside of traditional travel costs of mileage, food, and lodging

None - all travel funding will be used for in-state mileage, meals, and lodging, as necessary.

I understand and agree that lodging, meals, and mileage must comply with the current MMB Commissioner Plan:

No

Direct Support Services

How did you determine which portions of the Direct Support Services of your shared support services is direct to this program?

Minnesota DNR grants staff previously reviewed and approved DU accounting methodology for Direct Support Services, which are calculated and included in DU staff costs. DU Direct Support Services constitute approximately 10% of DU overall staff costs on average among DU conservation staff billing categories. DU breaks out and invoices for Direct Support Service expenses approved by DNR for reimbursement separately from Personnel expenses. In accordance with 2 CFR 200, DU uses the direct allocation method of allocating costs to

programs and final cost objectives. This process of allocating costs is accomplished through the use of hourly rates. The direct cost of activities, including direct support expenses, is included in these hourly rates. The rates are comprised of costs for salaries, benefits, office space, general insurance, support staff, office supplies, and other various direct expenses incurred at the regional offices and conservation department at the home office. All costs are assigned to conservation projects (net of applicable personnel and other costs that are non-conservation related.) Hourly charges represent the amount that DU charges conservation projects per hour for each staff member working on the project. These costs represent expenses that directly support the labor cost necessary for

the development of a specific water/wetlands conservation project.

PF utilizes the Total Modified Direct Cost method. This methodology is annually approved by the U.S. Department of Interior's National Business Center as the basis for the organization's Indirect Cost Rate agreement. PF's allowable direct support services cost is 4.12%. In this proposal, PF has discounted its rate to 2% of the sum of personnel, contracts, professional services, and travel, and will donate the difference in-kind.

Federal Funds

Do you anticipate federal funds as a match for this program?

Yes

Are the funds confirmed?

Yes

Is Confirmation Document attached?

[Yes](#)

- Cash : \$280,000
- In Kind : \$28,000

Output Tables**Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)**

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Acres
Restore	10	40	0	0	50
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	155	620	0	0	775
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0
Total	165	660	0	0	825

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Funding
Restore	\$90,000	\$100,000	-	-	\$190,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	\$797,000	\$2,200,000	-	-	\$2,997,000
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-
Total	\$887,000	\$2,300,000	-	-	\$3,187,000

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Acres
Restore	0	25	0	25	0	50
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	310	0	465	0	775
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	335	0	490	0	825

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Funding
Restore	-	\$95,000	-	\$95,000	-	\$190,000
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	\$1,200,000	-	\$1,797,000	-	\$2,997,000
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	\$1,295,000	-	\$1,892,000	-	\$3,187,000

Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type (Table 5)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat
Restore	\$9,000	\$2,500	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	\$5,141	\$3,548	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-

Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section (Table 6)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest
Restore	-	\$3,800	-	\$3,800	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-

Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	\$3,870	-	\$3,864	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

Outcomes

Programs in forest-prairie transition region:

- Wetland and upland complexes will consist of native prairies, restored prairies, quality grasslands, and restored shallow lakes and wetlands ~ *USFWS habitat easements will add restored and protected grassland and small wetland acres to augment existing public lands and other permanent easements to create prairie-wetland complexes with a more diverse mix of habitats and conservation options for private landowners. The measure of success will be the number of functioning prairie wetland complexes that provide adequate wetland and grassland acres within a landscape. This is a long-term, programmatic landscape conservation effort that will take time to achieve.*

Programs in prairie region:

- Expiring CRP lands are permanently protected ~ *This outcome will be measured by the number of expiring CRP acres that will be protected through USFWS easements, and the restored and protected grassland and wetland habitat that will not be subject to future conversion to intensive row crop agriculture. By offering private landowners a working lands conservation easement option, landowners in need of an annual income stream from their land will be incentivized to keep grasslands intact and restore wetlands.*

Parcels

For restoration and enhancement programs ONLY: Managers may add, delete, and substitute projects on this parcel list based upon need, readiness, cost, opportunity, and/or urgency so long as the substitute parcel/project forwards the constitutional objectives of this program in the Project Scope table of this accomplishment plan. The final accomplishment plan report will include the final parcel list.

Parcel Information

Sign-up Criteria?

[Yes](#)

Explain the process used to identify, prioritize, and select the parcels on your list:

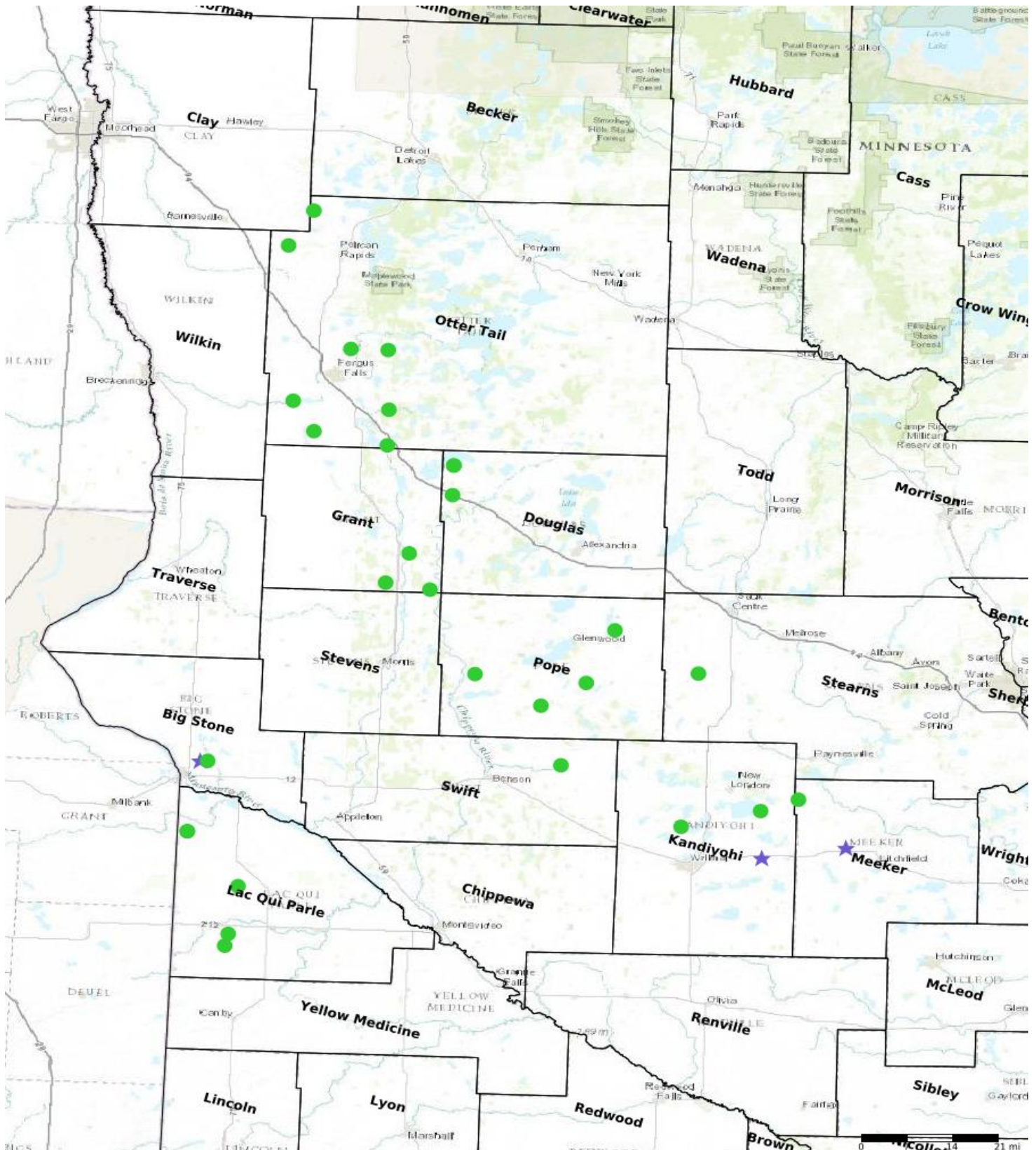
Restore / Enhance Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection
Haukos Habitat Easement	Big Stone	12246235	5	\$20,000	No
Helgeson Habitat Easement Upland/Wetland Restoration	Kandiyohi	11933208	30	\$50,000	No
Trebil Habitat Easement Upland Restoration	Meeker	12031231	207	\$100,000	No

Protect Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection
Dillan Roggenbuck Habitat Easement	Big Stone	12246236	75	\$120,000	No
Rindelaub Habitat Easement	Douglas	12940208	50	\$100,000	No
Hanson	Douglas	13040217	65	\$120,000	No
Hanson Trust Habitat Easement	Douglas	13040217	67	\$150,000	No
Todd and Mitch Ronhovde Habitat Easement	Grant	12742226	240	\$800,000	No
Nadgwick	Grant	12741235	40	\$75,000	No
Terry Giese Habitat Easement	Grant	12841232	100	\$425,000	No
Kim Larson Habitat Easement	Kandiyohi	12035216	46	\$195,000	No
Strehlow Habitat Easement	Kandiyohi	12133232	80	\$300,000	No
Schwendemann #1 Habitat Easement	Lac qui Parle	11845215	80	\$96,000	No
Schwendemann #2 Habitat Easement	Lac qui Parle	11745228	151	\$401,000	No
Schmidt Habitat Easement	Lac qui Parle	11645205	80	\$144,000	No
Wagner	Lac qui Parle	12046233	33	\$35,000	No
Worobel	Lac qui Parle	12046233	24	\$30,000	No
Soine Habitat Easement	Meeker	12132219	100	\$400,000	No
Lindblom Habitat Easement	Otter Tail	13342211	37	\$50,000	Yes
Arlene Delp Habitat Easement	Otter Tail	13644216	80	\$220,000	No
Lacey Habitat Easement	Otter Tail	13242235	83	\$100,000	No
Lori Krog Habitat Easement	Otter Tail	13343212	120	\$380,000	Yes
Bluebill Research Habitat Easement	Otter Tail	13143219	150	\$340,000	No
Dave Lindig Habitat Easement	Otter Tail	13244227	160	\$490,000	No
Evenson Habitat Easement	Otter Tail	13743218	59	\$80,000	Yes
Canvasback Point, LLC	Otter Tail	13142235	80	\$200,000	No
Myrom Habitat Easement	Pope	12437217	79	\$160,000	No
Dale Pederson Habitat Easement	Pope	12338205	96	\$220,000	Yes
Holzheimer Habitat Easement	Pope	12440211	80	\$75,000	No
Charles Schwartz Habitat Easement	Pope	12637236	41	\$125,000	No
Bruce Fauskee Habitat Easement	Stearns	12435202	140	\$430,000	No
Gerald Thompson Habitat Easement	Swift	12238226	295	\$380,000	No

Parcel Map



- Protect in Easement
- ▲ Protect in Fee with PILT
- ▲ Protect in Fee W/O PILT
- ★ Restore
- ✕ Enhance
- ⊕ Other